President's Commission for the Study of Ethical Problems
in Medicine and Biomedical and Behavioral Research

Suite 555, 2000 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006 (202) 653-8051

82-4029

January 4, 1982

The Honorable William J. Casey
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

I am pleased to transmit to you a prepublication copy of
the first Biennial Report of the President's Commission on
"Protecting Human Subjects." This report has been prepared
pursuant to §1802(c) of the Public Health Service Act to
evaluate the adequacy and uniformity of the Federal rules and
policies, and their implementation, for the protection of
human subjects of biomedical and behavioral research.

The Commission makes a number of proposals to increase
government-wide consistency and simplicity in the human
research regulations, as well as several recommendations
regarding the rules of specific departments and agencies.
May we suggest that you review these recommendations, which
appear in Chapter Five of the report? Under §1802(b) of the
Commission's enabling legislation each Federal entity affected
by a Commission recommendation is required (1) to publish the
recommendation within 60 days to provide an opportunity for
public comments regarding the adoption of the recommendation
and (2) to act upon the recommendation, favorably or unfavorably,
with a statement of reasons within 180 days of such publication.
As noted in the report, in order to avoid further repetitious
publication and duplication of effort by each affected agency,
the Commission would regard these requirements to be met if
action is proceeding on a similar schedule, with joint
publication and response, by the government-wide task force
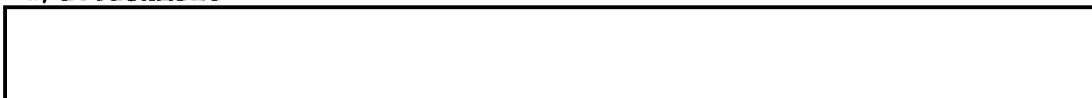recommended by the Commission.

The Commission would be pleased to cooperate in any way
you would find helpful to assist in seeing the conclusions
and recommendations of this report carried out.

Sincerely,

Morris B. Abram
Chairman

Enclosure

cc: w/attachment

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